ABSTRACT

The invention pertains to a process for manufacturing a solar cell foil comprising the steps of:

- providing an etchable temporary substrate
- applying a front electrode of a transparent conductive oxide (TCO) onto the temporary substrate
- applying a photovoltaic layer onto the TCO layer
- applying a back electrode layer
- applying a permanent carrier
- ensuring that the front electrode and the back electrode are electrically connected in an interconnect to establish a series connection, the front and the back electrode each being interrupted by front and back groove, respectively, at different sides of the interconnect
- in any one of the preceding steps providing an etch resist on the non-TCO side of the temporary substrate at least at the location of the interconnect, and at least not at the entire location of the front groove
- selectively removing the temporary substrate where it is not covered with etch resist.

The process of the invention provides a cap of a protective material on the interconnect, leading to a solar cell foil with improved properties.